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7 November 1979

South and East Asia Report

No. 853

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AUSTRALIA TO ASSIST PHILIPPINES IN COAL STUDY

Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 29 Sep 79 p 9

[Text] The Australian Embassy announced the other day (Thursday) that a team of Australian experts are in the Philippines to assist the Philippine government in a coal logistics study.

According to the embassy the study is to prepare a coal logistics development program for the PNOC Energy Development Corp.

The study will involve developing a movement pattern for coal--to move it from the coal fields to the factory sites.

In addition, it will assist in the design of coal handling facilities, such as loading and unloading yards, storage, crushing and blending plants.

The team is led by Barry Corry of the Australian engineering firm of McDonald, Wagner and Priddle. He is to be assisted by Tony Mehew and Mr Brian Besley on the engineering and materials handling side, and by Ms Dianna Gibb and Mr Tony O'Malley, in the area of economics, management and transport.

CSO: 4220

AUSTRALIA

INVESTMENT GUIDELINES BEING ABANDONED

Rangoon THE WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY in English 12 Oct 79 p 3

[Text] Australian Government insistence on 75 percent Australian participation in uranium projects has been abandoned in practice.

The investment guidelines to guarantee Australian control over its own resources were established after being debated at two elections by the Whitlam Labor Government. The Fraser Liberal-Country Party Government following public opinion, has given lip service to the idea, but has gradually broken it down. Last announcement from a ministerial quarter was that inadequate Australian investment funds made foreign capital necessary.

The acting Treasurer, Mr Eric Robinson, today announced that Western Mining Corporation and the British Petroleum group could use foreign investment to explore and develop the untapped massive copper-uranium-gold area of Roxby Downs in South Australia.

This follows the surprise result of the South Australian parliamentary elections last month when the Roxby Downs prospects were a key issue as an area likely to provide more employment. The state Liberal Government, now instilled, has promised to expedite uranium mining in South Australia.

Mr Robinson announcing the Federal Government's decision to support the state Liberals, ignored the past practice of referring to the 75 percent Australian equity. This is being interpreted in the Australian business world as evidence that foreign investment can resume the powerful activities of pre-1972.

This is the third uranium venture to receive foreign investment approval. A detailed exploration and feasibility study will begin at once on the Roxby Downs project. Simultaneously there will be an environmental study. The companies involved, Western Mining Corporation and the BP group, want uranium to be available by the mid-1980s.

According to the prospects of Australian mining companies like Western Mining, the copper at Roxby Downs is equivalent to the bountiful Mt Isa in Queensland while the uranium reserves amount to between 500 million to one billion tonnes of uranium ore.

CSO: 4220

AUSTRALIA

AUSTRALIAN POLICY ON ANTARCTIC RESOURCES REPORTED

Sydney THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD in English 19 Sep 79 p 11

[Report from Mike Steketee, Staff Correspondent]

[Text] Washington, Tuesday.--Australia is arguing strongly for its right to retain control of possibly rich oil and fishing resources off its Antarctic territories.

Mr K. Brennan, the Australian Government representative at a meeting of the 13 members of the Antarctic Treaty, said yesterday that Australian sovereignty, and therefore ownership of resources, extended to the edge of the continental shelf.

The shelf runs 300 kilometres out from the Antarctic land mass in some areas.

Mr Brennan is ambassador in Switzerland as well as the head of the Australian delegation to the Law of the Sea Conference.

Unlike other countries, including New Zealand, Australia will not discuss — at least at this stage — the possibility of sharing the proceeds of Antarctic resources around the world, particularly among poor countries.

Environmental groups want the continent left undisturbed except by scientific research.

Surveys suggest large reserves of oil in the Antarctic.

With the steep rise in world oil prices, oil companies have

expressed interest in exploring there.

However, they are still years away from developing the technology to work in the region, particularly offshore.

The development of other Antarctic resources has already begun.

The Soviet Union, Japan and Poland send trawlers down to fish for Krill, a small prawn-like creature which is the principal food for whales, seals, fish and some birds.

The conference hopes to produce an agreement to control krill fishing and the exploitation of other marine resources.

At least four of the 13 members of the Antarctic Treaty — the US, the Soviet Union, Japan, and Poland — do not recognise the territorial claims Australia and other countries make in the Antarctic.

Australia's claims, covering about 45 per cent of the territory of the continent — equivalent to two-thirds of the size of

Australia — are the largest of any of the seven countries which assert ownership.

Australia has gone further than most of these countries by arguing it owns the resources out to the edge of the continental shelf as well.

"Oil off the coast of Australia's Antarctic possessions belongs to Australia," Mr Brennan said at a press seminar before the conference.

"An oil company could come in and drill for oil there only with the approval of the Australian authorities."

At present, Australia would refuse permission because it had agreed with the other treaty partners to a ban on oil exploration and development until agreement was reached on mining activity in the sea.

So Australia's assertion of sovereignty should not be seen merely in terms of exploiting resources: it also was an important factor in protecting the environment.

ASSAM FLOOD TOLL ESTIMATED AT 16

Calcutta **THE STATESMAN** in English 13 Oct 79 p 1

[Text] At least 16 people have died and about 1.5 million people have been affected in the floods sweeping the entire Assam valley, official sources said today, report PTI and UNI.

According to a preliminary estimate, the floods have destroyed standing paddy crops. Houses have been swept away, thousands of people have been rendered homeless.

In Marigoan sub-division of Nowgong district, more than 200,000 people have been affected. Several bridges and roads have been washed away and embankments breached.

The Army continued rescue operations in Tezpur sub-division of Darrang district for the fourth day today.

The overall flood situation was grim and more areas were flooded by the Brahmaputra and its tributaries which had breached their embankments in Darrang, Nowgong, Kamrup and Goalpara districts. The Brahmaputra breached the embankments at Bhuragaon in Nowgong district yesterday.

Meanwhile, the Assam Chief Minister, Mr Jogendra Nath Hazarika, accompanied by the Revenue Minister, Mr Keshab Chandra Gogoi, and the Forest Minister, Mr Ramesh Saharia, today visited some of the flood-hit areas in Tezpur sub-division.

CSO: 4220

PELLETISATION UNIT PREDICTED FOR MANGALORE

Madras THE HINDU in English 12 Oct 79 p 1

[Text] A Rs. 70 crore pelletisation plant for converting the iron concentrates produced at the Kudremukh iron ore mines, which Iran will not be able to lift is almost certain to be located at Mangalore.

Mr Biju Patnaik, Minister for Steel, Mines and Coal, said the Government had ordered a detailed feasibility survey for locating the project, which will pelletise about three million tonnes of the 7-1/2 million tonnes of iron ore concentrates which the Kudremukh mines will produce annually.

Mr K C Khanna, Chairman and Managing Director of the Kudremukh iron ore project said the plant would be set up at Mangalore in two years without seeking any new financial outlay. About Rs. 70 crores would be found by savings that would be effected in the overall outlay of Rs. 648 crores.

Mr Khanna, who was responsible for building the gigantic Kudremukh project and completing it ahead of schedule, is likely to be entrusted with the construction of the pelletisation plant.

Mr Patnaik said the unit would have to be located in Mangalore so that pellets could be shipped to the nearest West Asian country, where gas was available cheaply for conversion into sponge iron. India would buy back this sponge iron for its own use. But infrastructure for producing sponge iron would have to be built there first.

He said Indonesia too was interested in setting up a plant for producing sponge iron from iron ore concentrates from Kudremukh and possibly also from Bailadila.

Indonesia would re-export the sponge iron to India. An Indonesian delegation was in India recently in this connection. India had offered technology and know how to Indonesia for setting up a sponge iron plant.

Mr Patnaik said India was also looking for buyers of iron ore in concentrate form in excess of what Iran could possibly lift. The assumption was that Iran would lift at least 4.5 million tonnes in 1983 when it was supposed to take 7.5 million tones.

The proposed Mangalore plant would handle about three million tonnes of concentrates for pelletisation, he said.

The plant can be set up within two years when the Kudremukh production attains peak levels, according to experts.

CSO: 4220

CONTRACT FOR SEA HARRIER FOR NAVY EXPECTED

Madras THE HINDU in English 13 Oct 79 p 13

[Text] Admiral R L Pereira, Chief of the Naval Staff, said here today that the Indian Navy was being modernized with sophisticated equipment in recognition by the Government of the necessity for increasing the maritime strength to safeguard the country's interests.

Just before his departure from here after a two-day visit to INS Agrani, a training unit where the senior sailors of the Navy are trained jointly in leadership and middle level management disciplines, Admiral Pereira told pressmen that probably within the next few months "we would be signing a contract with the British Aerospace Corporation for acquiring Sea Harrier, a small strike aircraft." These along with other sophisticated ships and weapons when acquired in three years would make the Navy quite strong.

Describing the modernization of the Navy as a "vital task--somewhat unglamorous--but absolutely necessary." Admiral Pereira said that "in our environment of economic development, it is not possible to be totally independent and though we have made great strides in the building of our own ships, there are still areas where support and maintenance must rely on manufacturers overseas." It was in this area that they had to set up not only the infrastructure for repair and maintenance but a system that would make immediately available, every necessary support facility required for their ships and aircraft.

He said the country had a vital interest in safeguarding its import and export trade which had touched Rs. 11,000 crores, most of which was being carried across the oceans of the world. The new off-shore oil explorations with a huge investment of Rs. 800 crores required the development of their Navy's capability to safeguard their tremendous economic asset particularly in the light of the current and future energy crisis.

In reply to questions, the Admiral said the acquisition or introduction of nuclear submarines posed certain problems in regard to safeguards which had to be developed. He ruled out the possibility of acquiring big frigates like Vikrant, as in the present context of development, smaller frigates with equal operational efficiency were preferred and also because the big ones became vulnerable to attack.

REVOLUTIONARIES KEEP POLICE AT BAY

Madras THE HINDU in English 14 Oct 79 p 4

[Text]

THE police and paramilitary forces in Manipur find themselves helpless in facing the recrudescence of violence in the recent past. Daylight robbery, shooting, street fightings and all sorts of violence have become the order of the day.

The revolutionaries have so far killed 15 armed personnel, snatched 31 guns including machine guns and ammunition. Three underground leaders whose heads carry a cash reward of Rs. 25,000 each have escaped from police custody while other revolutionaries captured alive in encounters and raids have been granted bail.

(In the latest incident on Tuesday last, two officials were killed following which a dusk-to-dawn curfew was clamped for an indefinite period in Greater Imphal area).

The curfew-bound town wears a deserted look. The common people who have not had a taste of curfew for many years are annoyed with the restrictions. Reports of police highhandedness during the curfew hours have only made the people angry. There are also reports of looting and sniping at security personnel.

There are two groups of revolutionaries operating in Manipur, the People's Liberation Army (PLA) and the People's Revolutionary Party of Kung-leipak (PREPAK). They have some sort of an understanding but they are separate and independent groups. They may be joining hands soon.

The revolutionaries are killing policemen and other paramilitary personnel for two reasons. They are successfully creating a psychology of panic among the public while at the same time collecting arms and ammunition. PLA hardly bothers to justify the killing before the public. In a series of leaflets, it is made known that PREPAK carefully chooses its victims who have been found "guilty" by the "People's Court". The revolutionaries of both the factions have been intensifying their activities. The combined forces of the police, CRP and Manipur Rifles have failed to track them down.

There are reports of raiding of houses where underground elements are suspected to be taking shelter or frisking away of pedestrians in the hope of recovering arms snatched from the armed forces. But the police have only drawn blank in their drive.

Meanwhile several wealthy citizens are receiving letters asking them to pay staggering amounts of money. Both PLA and PREPAK say that they have nothing to do with their extortions. With their revolution still in an embryonic stage, they cannot antagonise the people. So they have been killing those persons who are alleged to have written the threatening letters. After doing away with the "thugs" they return the whole amount intact to the rightful owners. Recently villagers near Imphal killed six "thugs" who extorted money from a villager. The people have been given the impression that the revolutionaries have not done any harm to them.

The revolutionaries accuse the police of trying to create a hiatus between the leaders and their followers and at the same time alienate the people from them. About three months back, the police are alleged to have issued a leaflet in which the revolutionary work of PLA was praised. But it raised many questions. Shall we achieve our goals by snatching a few arms from the police? The followers are always assigned to kill the police while the leaders who never pull a trigger get the credit. It is time we seriously pondered over the style of leadership, the leaflet urged. An underground leaflet was issued by way of reply warning the police to desist from such counter-revolutionary propaganda.

The police were taken aback by the reaction of the revolutionaries whose intelligence wing has easy access to the top secret files of their department. Nowadays an officer attends to a particular file all by himself to fix responsibility for leakage of key information.

Another leaflet was circulated last month, serving 'quit notice' on all non-Manipur residents to leave Manipur by September 12. The grisly murders in neighbouring Mizoram arising out of similar quit notices were fresh in the minds of the people. Many of them packed up ready to leave Manipur before the deadline.

But the revolutionaries announced that they had nothing to do with the quit notice. They claimed it was the handiwork of the police. Their crusade was not against the Indians who are "our brothers and sisters" but against the "Delhi bandits" who are perpetuating the trials and tribulations of the common people. Narrow parochialism is anathema to revolution, they said.

Apart from distributing leaflets, PLA has started publishing a magazine "Dawn" both in English and Manipuri. The people make a scramble for a copy of the magazine supplied free of cost. The articles make clear the intentions of the revolutionaries that they plan to set the whole of India ablaze. They make no secret that their ideology and inspiration are imported from China.

To segregate Manipur from the Indian Union to free the people from the clutches of the "colonialists" will be a suicidal jump and will not secure the people's co-operation. Manipur is importing items like potato and onion—not to mention other essential commodities. The revolutionaries have no answer to the question how long a segregated and beleaguered Manipur can survive without food from other parts of India and how long the tiny State with its small population can withstand the onslaught of China or Burma.

The revolutionaries give the impression that they have no connection with their counterparts in Nagaland and Mizoram. But the articles in "Dawn" show that they would like to join hands with the "real" revolutionaries of Nagaland camping along the international border.

But they would have no truck with the "pseudo-revolutionaries" who have now joined the national mainstream after signing the Shillong Accord of November 11, 1975. These "pseudo-revolutionaries" have been dubbed opportunists who joined the revolution merely for loaves and fishes.

There is no indication that the revolutionaries of the North-East region have joined hands for concerted action. The Nagaland Government is ignoring the erstwhile rebels who have now eschewed the path of violence; the real threat comes from those who are camping somewhere along the border. From time to time they sneak into Nagaland to create law and order problems. In Mizoram, the rebels must have realised from their abortive attempts that their armed might cannot make any dent on New Delhi.

The rebels from this region are going to China, Tibet and the thick jungles of Burma and Arakan region for training or taking refuge. It has been a dangerous journey for the underground elements to go abroad as large numbers of troops have been deployed and it would be risky to come back with arms.

The task would be much easier if the undergrounds of this region joined hands. The Naga rebels camping along the international border could have entered Nagaland long ago if the undergrounds of Manipur had extended help to them.

CSO: 4220

INCREASE IN THERMAL ELECTRICITY PLANNED

Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 12 Oct 79 p 7

[Text] The installed capacity of thermal electricity will be increased from 15,000 MW to 44,000 MW during the next 10 years. Mr S.N. Roy, chairman, Central Electricity Authority, told this to reporters. He was inaugurating a technical forum on coal-fired thermal power generation here yesterday.

The two-day forum sponsored by the Central Electricity Authority of India and the Technology Transfer Institute of Japan, was attended by 100 experts representing various electric supply organizations and manufacturers from the two countries.

Mr Roy said in view of the increase in thermal generation, experts had to ensure that supply of power was economical.

He said low-grade coal would be used for the generation. The experts would have to tackle a series of problems. The high ash content (30% to 45%) and the presence of silica in ash affected the efficiency of the machine, he added.

The smaller units were found to be disadvantageous and greater emphasis were being laid on bigger units which could produce from 210 MW to 500 MW. Still maximum output would have to be derived from the smaller units to meet the growing demand, Mr Roy said.

Mr Toichiro Akaguchi, Director, Thermal Power Development, Electric Power Development, Electric Power Development Company of Japan, said the coal-fired unit was important in view of the oil price rise.

He said Japan had to cope with the current energy problem by exploring new energy resources such as nuclear energy, liquified natural gas and coal-fired thermal power rather than be expanding oil-fired power plants.

The Technology Transfer Institute believes that all sophisticated technology of the day should be shared on an equal basis. The institute, with its headquarters in Tokyo, wants to achieve its objective through a number of its overseas offices.

COMMENTATOR ON LEFT-DEMOCRATIC ALLIANCES

Delhi Domestic Service in English 1545 GMT 25 Oct 79 BK

[Article by (O.P. Sabharwal) of India Press Agency: "Spotlight on: Left Front Convention"]

[Text] In the pre-election setting which is gradually framing up, the recently held conventions at several places in the country, bringing together left parties and a number of others such as the Congress-U and the Parallel Congress of Mr Sharad Pawar, add a new contour to the national scene. The convention is not an isolated event, since similar gatherings have been lately held in other major centers of the country. It will be absurd to describe the occasion as representative of a distinct trend in the political scenario that prevails in India.

What is distinct about these conventions is their plank--anti-authoritarianism and anti-communalism. This plank becomes meaningful when it is related to the country's eventful years since the proclamation of emergency in 1975, and its historical rebound witnessed during the 1977 Lok Sabha general elections.

While the experience of the emergency gave rise to a hardening political viewpoint that such an abridgement of democratic rights of the people and the nation must not be allowed to be repeated, the period that followed the 1977 elections had assumed negative features which led to the split in the former ruling party and an abrupt end to Janata rule.

It [words indistinct] our purpose to bisect these two major developments in India's national life, blistering with controversies and capable of being interpreted differently. But a few broad conclusions have (?won) a large concensus.

From the experience of the emergency has come a general acceptance of the idea of creating in-built constitutional guarantees which will make the repetition of such enactments well nigh impossible. At the other extreme, it has been found that the type of negative unity of divergent political forces which gave rise to the Janata Party cannot be lasting unless a commonness of purpose is achieved.

The most striking point in this line of argument is that to combat authoritarianism, communalism cannot be made even a temporary ally. Pinpointing this concept was Mr E.M.S. Namboodiripad, CPI-M [Communist Party of India-Marxist] leader, who noted in the Bombay convention that "In 1977, we listed authoritarianism to be more dangerous than communalism." And so the CPI-M's alliance with Janata, which included the Jana Sangh, and this was considered by the leftist parties to be a purveyor of communalism in India's body politic. [Sentence as heard] But this, as Mr Namboodiripad found, was not only wrong but incompatible.

There is yet another legacy of the Janata period which is manifesting a negative influence of the evolution of political life in India under the norms which should guide political parties, and that is the weakening of the accepted premise that political parties must be guided by clear-cut socio-economic programs and policies, and their concept of national development must be bound by a common political philosophy.

The formation and the split of the Janata Party has unfortunately been accompanied by alliances of political groups and parties based on expediency and power sharing, which violate the political atmosphere in the country.

It is perhaps correct to describe the present political phase as a period of transition and flux, in that several socioeconomic ideas and programs are being tried out and tested. The forthcoming elections, it is hoped, will help in the crystallization of this process. But in order that a clear verdict emerges from the elections, it is (?advisable) that main political forces and parties define their political-economic orientation and program in a definitive form, rather than keep the electorate guessing. The failure to do so results in a power tussle without any principles or sense of national direction, and it carries the danger of degeneration of the political system.

An expression of this danger, according to the parties and groups which met in the Bombay convention, is the alliance and the sharing of power between those projecting a theocratic state outlook and others projecting a secular standpoint. In this picture, when parties have been splitting and alliances made without relevance to the pragmatic concept, the exception appears to be the growing sense of unity amongst the left parties, of which the widening range of unity between the two communist parties--the CPI-M and the CPI is a preeminent development. The division among the two parties in the last decade has been on well-defined national and international issues, and with the emergence of many common policy denominators among them, the two communist parties have been able to form a common plank of anti-authoritarianism and anti-communalism which they share with other left parties.

Unity of the left forces, while being a notable current event, also makes it feasible to extend the common plank against authoritarianism and communalism to include other like-minded parties labelled as "democratic parties." While the holding of a joint gathering of these parties on a common plank is

a definitive development, its limitations are also evident. The conventions such as the one held in Bombay have been related to aspects which can hardly be separated from the broad stream of national development. The left alliance with certain like-minded democratic parties lacks an overall national perspective about programs and policies which the major political forces have to project as the priority.

Unless the urgent economic tasks which face the country are dealt with adequately, the prospect of a meaningful and forceful alliance of the left and democratic parties intervening in the political development, in fact, is slender.

CSO: 4220

BRIEFS

RAJASTHAN STATE FAMINE--The entire state of Rajasthan has been declared as famine affected. Twenty-two districts in the state were earlier declared famine affected, and a notification regarding the remaining four districts was issued yesterday. According to the state government release, 30,815 villages out of the total of 33,070 villages have been affected. [Text] [Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 27 Oct 79 BK]

CSO: 4220

GOVERNMENT TO DEAL WITH DELAYS IN OPENING TRANSMIGRATION AREAS

Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 20 Jul 79 pp 1, 12

[Excerpts] To deal with delays in the opening of transmigration sites this year, Minister of Public Works Purnomasidi will inspect and remain overnight at 13 sites after the month of fasting. His aim is to obtain a true picture, so that if delay is unavoidable, it will hopefully not be far off the October target.

Following talks with President Suharto in the Bina Graha yesterday, the minister confirmed the information revealed earlier by the minister of manpower and transmigration that the opening of these transmigration sites will be delayed. According to Purnomasidi, this is because these are new-type projects, and the contractors lack experience.

Sites being opened now are making use of the forests. In the past, they were only cleared and burned. Now, we will bring in heavy machinery, and export wood.

He acknowledged that in addition to the factor of inexperience, the contracts were closed only in January-February, so that purchase and deployment of machinery took place slowly. But, he said that as of now, contractors were generally in the field, and machinery, if not on site, is at least in the nearest harbor, though the start of operations had originally been scheduled for April.

The minister was not prepared to state whether transmigrants would begin to arrive in their new residential areas in October. "Basically, we must work as hard as we can, because the rains for planting begin in October."

Planning must immediately be followed up with opening of the sites. This means planners must come right behind the bulldozers. "Preliminary studies were done earlier," he noted.

Answering a question, he explained that recent openings had definitely damaged the fertility of the soil. This is because previously, the woods were cleared and burned, which did not affect soil fertility. But the entrance of heavy machinery changed the character of the land. For example,

the ability to absorb water is cut to about 1 percent, so that soil which can normally absorb 30 cubic meters in an hour can absorb just .3 cubic meters.

But according to Purnomosidi, based on field tests, that problem can be overcome. After the bulldozers are done, the soil can be harrowed, improving absorption. Layers of top soil that are disturbed can have phosphate rock added to improve soil condition.

Reportedly, 200-1,000 kg of phosphate rock is needed for each hectare. During the first year, the land must be sowed just once, to protect agricultural productivity. After that, it can be fertilized with ordinary fertilizer. According to the minister of public works, the price of phosphate rock is about 70 Rupiahs per kg. Thus, the cost of fertilizing the 1,250 hectares needed for each transmigrant family is 90,000 Rupiahs. "Still, that is not much out of the total of 2.7 million Rupiahs set aside for the move of each family."

He added, that according to the Department of Agriculture, undisturbed soil (old system of opening transmigration sites) but fertilized, produces 1.4 tons per hectare. Disturbed and unfertilized soil produces just .7 tons per hectare, but more than 2 tons, if fertilized. "It is important that we strive to meet the target for opening. That is because it will influence our plans in future years," he said.

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CSO: 4213

OVER 1000 VILLAGE CHIEFS IN WEST JAVA BEING REPLACED

Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesia 19 Jul 79 pp 1, 9

[Excerpts] More than 1,000 village heads in various regencies in West Java have been, or will be replaced in stages this year.

SA Jussac, chief of Public Relations for the West Java Regional Government, said many village chiefs in each regency had been replaced, and that the replacements were being carried out in stages. He was not prepared to reveal how many would be replaced this year, other than stating, "more than 1,000." There are 4,021 villages in West Java.

In explaining the reasons for replacement, Jussac said they were done for rejuvenation. Attention focused on village chiefs in office more than 20 years, or those involved in cases of government or public loss.

"Primarily, the replacements are being carried out to insure that the village chiefs are better, progressive, competent, and able to digest and carry out development programs," Jussac explained.

Reportedly, 86 village chiefs in Ciamis regency have been, or will be replaced, at the recommendation of the regent, Dr Suyud. The recommendation was approved by the governor of West Java in a directive dated 28 February 1979.

There are 197 villages in Ciamis regency, meaning about 44 percent of the village chiefs are being replaced. Of the 86, 25 were replaced in February/March; 23 in April/May; and 38 in June-August.

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INDONESIA

PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION TO VISIT SOVIET UNION

Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 18 Jul 70 p 12

[Text] The Indonesian delegation to the Soviet Union and Mongolia, led by the head of Parliament, Daryatmo, is under instruction to sound out Soviet attitudes toward current Southeast Asian problems, including the influence it can exert on Vietnam.

After the delegation, scheduled to visit the Soviet Union and Mongolia from 20 July-3 August, said goodbye to President Suharto in the Bina Graha, Daryatmo said the head of state did not specifically charge them with this task. "This must be discussed with the Soviet Union. But only if we are asked," he quoted the president.

Minister Coordinator for Political and Security Affairs M. Panggabean gave more specific instructions, according to Daryatmo. Panggabean expects the delegation to ask the Soviets to use their influence on Vietnam, so that they would "not dump their trash into other people's yards." According to Daryatmo, this does not mean we are begging, but will be grateful if the Soviet Union will intercede.

He added that the president had furnished complete background on relations with the Soviet Union. It was emphasized that to maintain its political freedom of maneuver, Indonesia is not discriminatory in its relations, and does not discriminate between East and West. The same is true for economic relations and trade. Indonesia wishes trade with the entire world, asking only for quality goods as inexpensive as possible, and with guaranteed spare parts.

The delegation includes Andi Mochter of Commission III; RH Soegandhi, Commission I; H Soderi, Commission V; Oka Mahendra, Commission II; and Sumadi, Commission I.

9197
CSO: 4213

U. S. PURCHASE OF LNG REPORTED

Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 16 Jul 79 p 16

[Text] After 6 years of indecision, the U. S. has decided to buy liquid natural gas (LNG) from Indonesia. The decision will be announced in the next 2 to 3 months, and the buyer will immediately build a reception terminal for LNG in Point Concepcion, California. Pertamina is building additional trains in Arun, Aceh. Their production will be channeled to California.

The decision was announced Saturday by Pertamina Director-in-Chief Piet Haryono, joined by Joseph R. Rensch, president of Pacific Lighting Corporation, after the two were received by President Suharto in the Merdeka Palace. Kenneth Dorking of the Pacific Gas and Electric Company was also present at the meeting. The two businessmen are forming a new enterprise to buy Indonesian LNG.

According to Joseph Rensch, he briefed President Suharto on recent developments in the licensing process for the purchase of LNG, which awaits the decision of the American federal government. He added that the enterprise had prepared seven LNG transport vessels to bring Arun LNG to the California terminal. "America has great need for that LNG," he said.

Piet Haryono added that the California state government had imposed no further conditions on LNG use, or on the construction of the terminal. The federal government decision is pending because in accordance with the American system, they must hear from persons who object to the LNG has been shortened. "I hope that all will be concluded in 2 or 3 months, and construction can be completed," he said.

He would not comment on the cost to Pertamina of the construction of additional trains. According to plan, three trains, each with an annual production capacity of 1.5 million tons, will be built to produce LNG for the United States. He said that financing would be obtained from a consortium of several banks. All production from the three trains in the Arun LNG complex goes to Japan and according to plan another train will be built to supply the Japanese market.

GROWTH OF ISLAM JAMA'AH SECT SEEN

Formerly Banned Islam Jama'ah Re-emerges

Jakarta TEMPO in Indonesian 15 Sep 79 pp 48-50

[Text] The "sensation" caused by the Islam Jama'ah [Brotherhood of Islam] may indicate the growth of the sect. Or the extent of its "fanaticism." Or how far it deviates from Islamic teachings. Also included are comments from various regions.

A new stormy issue almost constantly confronts us. Trouble over the Islam Jama'ah erupted in the capital this month, emerging in various news reports in almost all the newspapers. An instruction was issued by the Ulama Council of the DKI [special capital region] of Jakarta around the Idul Fitri holiday. It ordered all Moslems to "be aware of" the adherents of the LJ--and to report to the government if they came across any of their activities.

People remember that the brouhaha surrounding this case began at that time. It developed further after a sermon was given in Jakarta (the printed text of which was sold) by A.M. Fatwa, a member of the DKI MU [Ulama Council], which also discussed the Islam Jama'ah.

Actually the "tension" surrounding this matter had been noted earlier. People began to talk about the Islam Jama'ah when the divorce of the singer, Benyamin, was discussed as being solely due to these "new" teachings--and Benyamin was always referred to as an LJ adherent.

Furthermore, H. Amiruddin Siregar, the secretary general of the Indonesian Ulama Council (MUI) told TEMPO that the council, which he heads, had begun to notice some "agitation" over this sect at least a year ago. A number of reports from the public caused MUI to ask regional MUs to monitor the development of the LJ and determine whether the sect and its basic teachings were extremist.

The sermons of the Kemayoran Muballigh [preacher] Corps in Jakarta have been the most unremitting in their criticism of the LJ. The Corps published a brochure strongly attacking the LJ and the behavior of its

adherents. The brochure is entitled, "Islam Jama'ah Strays and Leads Its Adherents Astray." The Corps also held a press conference. A total of 15,000 copies of the brochure were printed and it will be reprinted--"Because there apparently is a great demand for it," said Drs Sumari Muslih, the Corps chairman.

All opponents of the LJ generally have the same complaint: the sect would like to convert individuals into nonbelievers. The doctrine which states that a person is not a true Moslem unless he has sworn allegiance to Nurahan Ubaidah, called Amirul Mukminim, (see TEMPO, 3 July 1971) is accompanied--at least on the part of some of the adherents--by the rejection of physical contact with nonadherents. It is clear that any articles used in the divine service that are touched by outsiders must be purified--in addition, articles purified by nonbelievers are not considered to be purified. Many cases of divorce have been noted in various regions because one of the partners adheres to the LJ. Also children suddenly do not want to pray behind their fathers or wives behind their husbands. The corpse of an adherent cannot be touched by a nonbeliever, whether the nonbeliever is its mother or its child.

This probably is why the sect was banned by the attorney general in October 1971 under his decision No 089/DA/10/1971 (TEMPO, 13 November 1971). The sect, of course, emerged again after a time under various names in a number of the regions (TEMPO, 17 March 1979).

But how did this sect develop and grow to the point where people got so excited about it?

Amiruddin Siregar of the MUI feels its development was most remarkable in Jakarta. The Kemayoran Muballigh Corps alone has an estimated membership of 23,000--and they began to be visibly active 3 years ago.

It is not so widespread in West Java, however--according to Kiai Hadji E.Z. Muttaqin, chairman of the Provincial Ulama Council. "Here the mosque is really viable," he said. "Here DKM, the Mosque Welfare Board, is useful for it works jointly with the neighborhood associations and the residents associations."

He estimates there are no more than 500 members in all of Java. However, according to the director of the ITB [Bandung Technology Institute] Salman Mosque, this is the estimate for Bandung membership. Also included in this estimate are students such as Kemal Taruk, the former chairman of the ITB Student Council.

Apparently there are many more members in Central Java--and they cause more of an uproar there. In Limpung Subdistrict, Batan Regency, an Islam Jama'ah prayer house, using the name Yakari, was demolished by the local inhabitants, and was witnessed by the TRIPIDA in June 1979.

Sirado, who admitted he was a candidate for chairman of Yakari Branch, explained that the Central Java Yakari was handling the matter of the demolished prayer house. Last month they sent a letter to the Ministry of Home Affairs, KOPKAMTIB [Department of Defense and Security], and even to the president. However, no replies have been received as yet.

On the evening of 29 August a debate was even held in Kampung Kelgo, Pekalongan, between IJ adherents versus Syaibani (Sala) with the local preacher. As a result, 11 IJ adherents returned to join up with Moslems who formerly had not been in the group.

The Wonosari kampung mosque, Bergota, South Semarang, is one of the centers in the Semarang area. Religious instruction and a Friday service are held regularly and are attended by about 200 men and 25 women. Almost all of them are young and, according to TEMPO's Putu Setia (who participated in a Friday service), only two persons that day wore the kopiah [headdress of Indonesian Moslems]--and they were old.

As in all IJ mosques, the sermon was given in Arabic--and only after the sholat was a lecture given in the Indonesian language. However, on that day before the sholat, the khatib [mosque official] suddenly said, "Brothers, those of you who are not interested in IJ or who hold different views on Moslem law, please leave." Everyone then looked around to see who would leave. Suddenly many, about 50, held up their hands (a signal for permission to leave) and walked out--after tossing an offering to the Khatib. The mosque apparently even had a roster of watchmen. "We must be careful. Even more so in Jakarta where people are more violent," a youth told Putu outside the mosque--then suddenly became silent.

Also this mosque came about through a struggle--only this time the IJ side won. Hartawi A.M., public relations officer for the Central Java chief public prosecutor, indicated that the Islam Jama'ah was growing rapidly in Kudus, Pati, Salatiga, and Demak, in addition to Semarang. Last August, he said, a team from the attorney general's office came to Semarang to investigate the IJ. Its leaders were interrogated but none were imprisoned. "Also Kejati, Central Java, is still waiting for instructions from the attorney general."

But what about the situation in Kudus where IJ is said to have made more progress? D. Sunaryo, chairman of the Kudus KUA [Religious Affairs Office], made an odd statement. "I don't know anything about the Islam Jama'ah's teachings. I only know of this sect from what I read in the newspaper...."

According to Kiai Hadji A.R. Fakhruddin, general chairman of the Muhammadiya central leadership, as far as he knows there are only 200 to 300 members of the IJ scattered throughout the cities of Bantul, Gunung Kidul, and Sleman in the Yogyakarta area. In general its adherents are also young.

However, this is interesting: Ida Royani gave a lecture in Yogya, on 4 July, at the "Veteran" UPN [National Development University) campus. What was the problem? The students wanted a "pop" lecture. What did Ida say? She said, "Basically remember that we must not readily take gossip for gospel. We must know whether it is Hadis [Moslem tradition] or whether it is an epistle from the Koran," according to Rusdi Siswarto Hasan, first chairman of the local Mushalla Council.

Now to Sala. Abdullah Thufail, the preacher who earlier was famous for his "tough" early morning prayer sermons, conducted by the Muhammadiyah Youth, is now busy lecturing in institutes called Islamic Religious Instruction Councils (MPI). His followers are called "jama'ah." He lectures every Sunday morning, at different places. His goal, he says, is to purify Islam in order to create true Moslems. Ninety-five of his followers are young people. According to Aminuddin, of the Islamic Religion Information Service of the Sala Department of Religion, who was assigned to investigate this preacher, his concept is radical-exclusive, and he always attacks another group that clearly is the Islam Jama'ah. Forty persons participate in each religious instruction session.

Ngafwan, secretary of the Sala Department of Religion office, also said that mosques had been demolished in Tegalharjo. The Darul Hadis movement had been dissolved by TRIPIDA in Kartasura, still in Sala--according to Muhsin, a preacher. They were also said to have disrupted the religious instruction sessions of other groups in a number of places in the Karanganyar Regency.

Outside Java, probably enough examples can be found in West Sumatra and South Sulawesi. In West Sumatra, the IJ was found in Sawahlunto, Sijunjung Regency, early in 1971. In less than 3 months KORES [Resort Command] 318 (now 308) banned it after taking strong measures against its leaders. Later in 1977, using the name Islam Murni [pure Islam] it reappeared in Tanjung Bonai, Tanah Datar. It was banned in 1978. According to Datuk Palimo Kayo, chairman of the West Sumatra Ulama Council, the latest news is that it appeared again in Sawahlunto, Sijunjung Regency, among the transmigrants.

In Ujung Pandang, the IJ has a mosque on Macini Raya Street and has gathered in a number of scholars (mostly women), at least one businessman, and a public prosecutor. It has the most influence in this region in Siwa, Pitumpanua Wajo Subdistrict. The sect had its own mosque in Sengkang in the 1960s, but its growth was stopped when the government ban was imposed and its leader died.

Perhaps the movement has not progressed too far outside Java. It is different in Karawang, one of the areas which also has an IJ "social project." In Karawang it has twice as many adherents as it had before the movement was dissolved in 1971. They now number in the 300s. Here the IJ development was striking in early 1978. The IJ brotherhood is meeting in Rawagabus, Klari, 15 kilometers from the teaching center established before 1971 (in Margakaya village, Telukjambe).

Located on 1 hectare of land on the Jakarta-Cirebon road, protected by turi trees, are more than 10 houses, about 100 followers, and a mushalla. The land was purchased by Capt Zubaedi Umar of Jakarta from Ratma, a dalang [narrator for puppet shows], the former owner--at a high price, according to the dalang. It appears quiet from the outside, but a number of eyes watch suspiciously as someone approaches. Any question about the LJ is answered with, "I don't know"--and at most with "We only recite the Koran and Hadis." This, of course, has been prearranged," commented an official of the Karawang office of the Department of Religion.

At certain times the place is noisy. The artists Benyamin, Ida Royani, and Christine are said to have appeared there a number of times. "They came here several times," a person working in the communal garden said unwittingly.

Last year Captain Zubaedi also purchased several hectares of a smallholder estate nearby in Warungbambu. This was farmed by tens of male adherents voluntarily. The estate was planted with banana trees and cassava like the estate in Karangsinom village, Cikampek. All the land is owned by Jama'ah and the crops are sold, among other things, to pay the salary and expenses of the mosque preacher.

Wasto, born in Tegal, 30 years old, is a local inhabitant whose livelihood was guaranteed appropriately after he joined the LJ. According to Wasto, Captain Zubaedi is now building a huller in Warungbambu which "will be used later to take care of our livelihood." Yadi, 38 years old, who with his wife and two children also came to live here from their kampung in Banjarnegara. He, among other things, guards Captain Zubaedi's estate and is paid 1,000 rupiah a day. "It was hard to find work in the kampung," he said.

According to an official at the Cikampek KUA, the LJ provides social welfare "to attract people to join." For instance in North Cikampek and in Karangsinom, minus areas, prospective members are offered 6,000 rupiah in assistance. So, 40 people gathered together. A prominent name in Karangsinom is LEMKARI, officially [the political faction] GOLKAR [Golongan Karya]. Regarding social assistance, moreover, "a number of persons who have embraced the sect made the hadj at no expense to themselves," said Mansum, from the office of the PAKEM [Beliefs and Religion Supervisor] in Karawang.

The sect often took a harsh stance toward those who do not want to join them. Adjat Sudradjat, 35 years old, was a senior high school teacher who lives in a rented hut which he built himself on land owned by the dalang, Ratma, before the land was bought by Zubaedi. As soon as the land changed hands, he was offered the alternatives of joining the LJ or moving. Adjat refused to join and he and his family were forced to flee. Doesn't this present a different aspect of Islam Jama'ah, one other than plain religious fanaticism?

Biography of Muhammad Madigol

Jakarta TEMPO in Indonesian 15 Sep 79 pp 50-51

[Article: "The Story of Muhammad Madigol"]

[Text] His name is Madigol. In full it is Muhammad Madigol. Nudzir Thohir wrote of the origin of the name Imam Haji Nurhasan Al-Ubaidah Lubis Amir in his 1977 thesis prepared for IAIN [State Islamic Religion Institute] in Surabaya.

Madigol, the son of Haji Abdul Aziz, was born in 1908 in Bangi village, Papar, Kediri. He went through the third grade in elementary school, according to today's standards of education.

According to another thesis written by Khozin Arief of IAIN, Jakarta, the Pondok [Moslem boarding school] Sewelo in Nganjuk was the first religious training center attended by Madigol. This small religious center was modeled on the Sufi sect. Madigol then attended the Pondok Jamsaren in Sala, and according to Kiai Hadji Ali Darokah, the pondok head, he was there only about 7 months. The kiai said there was nothing unusual about Madigol except that he "very much liked to lie."

What was called "lying" apparently is explained in an article by Kiai Haji Haris Haidaroh of Yogyakarta (this is not in the thesis). Madigol is the "super dukun [shaman]"--a practice with which he could be comfortable, and he was in command of a number of the shaman's arts.

Later, according to Khozin, Madigol studied in Dresmo, Surabaya at a pondok which specializes in teaching the pencak silat [a self-defense system]. After Dresmo, as told by Nurhasan to Khozin, he studied in Sampang, Madura, where he was taught by Kiai Al Ubaidah of Batuampar. He busied himself with religious instruction and making pilgrimages to sacred burial places. He admitted that he added his teacher's name to the name he now uses.

According to Mundzir's thesis, Madigol also stayed at, among other places, the Pondok Lirboyo, Kediri, and the Pondok Tebuireng, Jombang. He then left on his first pilgrimage to Mecca in 1929 and when he returned--as is customary for Indonesians--he changed his name to Hadji Nurhasan and eventually became Hadji Nurhasan Al Ubaidah. The name Lubis, he said, is what his pupils called him. It is an abbreviation of "luar biasa" [extraordinary]. To indicate his position, he added the word Imam before his name and Amir after his name.

In 1933 he left again for Mecca. There he studied the Bukhari and Moslem Hadis [tradition] with Sheik Abu Umar Hamdan of Morocco and also studied at the Madrasah [Islamic school] Darul Hadits, not far from the Al Haram Mosque. He used the name Darul Hadits later for his own religious training center.

However, according to Khozin, this 1933 departure for Mecca actually was a "flight," perhaps made in about 1937 or 1938. At that time, Khozin said, there was a disturbance in Madura. I don't know whether any deaths were involved in this affair, but clearly Nurhasan "fled to Surabaya--then faded away to Mecca."

And in Mecca, as told to Khozin by Hadji Khoiri, who resided there, Nurhasan actually had no particular job. Because he always hung around the Masjidil Haram, he was finally authorized to live in the dormitory headed by Khoiri. One day a neighbor was outraged about losing a goat. The police looked for it and finally trailed it to the Khoiri dormitory. The goat was found under Nurhasan's bed (!) and of course, Khoiri was embarrassed. However, since he, Khoiri, had good relations with the police, Nurhasan was not prosecuted. The police just ordered Khoiri to throw Nurhasan out.

What kind of a hadj did Nurhasan make while he was in Mecca? Khoiri did not know. Seeing "such strange behavior," he said, made him think Nurhasan may have been studying shamanism--since there still may have been quite a few shamans in Saudi Arabia at that time. But the Amir of the Islam Jama'ah told Khozin--as was announced officially--that he studied in Darul Hadits which followed Wahabi teachings. If one looks at the curriculum of the Kediri pondok, "all of the Koran and Hadis recitations" follow Wahabi. Also according to Hadji Amiruddin Siregar, the secretary general of the Indonesian Ulama Council, the movement's militancy resembles that of the Wahabi--although "mysticism" is used in a shamanistic sense, it is the "Wahabi ancient enemy."

Khozin also sent letters to Mecca to get information for his thesis. Replies came back from Asy Sheik Muhammad Umar Abdul Hadi, director of the Madrasah Darul Hadits in Mecca, and Asy Sheik Abdullah bin Muhammad bin Humaid, general director of religious inspection at the Al Haram Mosque. The letter from the Darul Hadits (which Khozin himself had come across earlier) said no one by the name of Nurhasan Al Ubaidah had studied there between 1929 and 1941. The madrasah had only been established in 1956.... Furthermore, after Nurhasan's identifying marks were submitted to the imam at the Al Haram Mosque as well as information on the kind of teachings which were being developed by him in Indonesia, the imam again replied that no such teachings were offered at the Al Haram Mosque, and if someone was spreading these concepts in the name of the Al Haram Mosque, he was a deceiver. A deceiver is the personification of the great devil who, according to Moslem tradition, will emerge on doomsday. So perhaps the mystic, Nurhasan, is a Wahabian only because he heard of the sect in Saudi Arabia, which of course is the land of Wahabi.

It is clear that on returning from Mecca in 1941, as Nurhasan has said, he began to give religious instruction in Kediri. There, he claimed to have lived in Mecca for 18 years. Initially he just operated the pondok as was the custom. He proclaimed it was to be called the Darul Hadits pondok only in 1951. Please remember, however, that the Darul Hadits in Malang did not solely concentrate on Moslem tradition nor did it hold to the doctrine of the jama'ah, amir, bai'at, and ta'at as Nurhasan later proclaimed.

Upon returning from Mecca, Nurhasan worked as a woven bamboo tradesman. He married a woman from Madura. According to Mundzir's thesis, Nurhasan's wife Al Suntikah (who may be the woman from Madura) was born in Jombang. Nurhasan also married three other women, two from Sala and one from Mojokerto. It is interesting that these words appear in notes for a lecture by Nurhasan in Khozin's possession: "This is just like me. I have studied the Koran, Hadis, and now...the reteeeng [sic] wives" (renteng means lined up in a row).

Nurhasan's last journey to Mecca, according to Khozin, was also due to a "renteng" problem. A commotion erupted the day after the 1971 election. Nurhasan, said Khozin, ran away with a female pupil. The girl's uncle, who was a CPM [military police corps] member and not a member of the Islam Jama'ah, pursued Nurhasan--and he knew Nurhasan had hidden the girl in Garut. Nurhasan was trailed by the CPM member to Malang--and was interrogated. Afraid of losing face, the CPM member asked a kiai for "help." The CPM member said no torture had been used in the interrogation. However, the interrogation clearly caused Nurhasan to fall ill--screaming like a ngromet. Strangely, the wife of the CPM member, at home, also suddenly acted like a ngromet, using the same words uttered by Nurhasan....

The story told by Kiai Hadji Achmad Thohir Widjaja, who worked daily as the general chairman of the Majelis [council] Da'wah Islamiyah (MDI-GOLKAR [Golongan Karya]) should be added.

According to this kiai, Nurhasan actually intended to propose marriage to the girl, even though her family would not agree to it. And Nurhasan actually would have had to lose face if he "changed his mind" at that time--so he would take no advice. Some individuals advised: If you want to fight him, it's easy. Strip him--and he will become paralyzed. Nurhasan was stripped and apparently a bunch of flowers was attached to the right side of his belt, a bunch of setaman flowers, a Javanese said. "Food for evil spirits," So, Nurhasan actually became paralyzed. He hasn't been able to speak up to the present time. Then Nurhasan's family wondered whether they should advise the old man to be treated in Mecca because "the evil spirit which ate the flowers comes from Mecca." But he was not cured there either and hasn't been up to the present time.

It is not clear what happened later. According to Thohir Widjaja, Nurhasan is in Kertosono, East Java now after returning from Mecca. This important leader is very popular in East Java and is called "Baidah." If he walked down a certain path in the 1950s and 1960s, they say people would talk slanderously about him for 3 days. "Yesterday Baidah came through here. Seated on a Harley (the make of a motorcycle at that time) he wove around like a snake. He had a big dog in front of him. He also stopped at ---'s stall."

Islam Jama'ah Doctrine, Structure

Jakarta TEMPO in Indonesian 15 Sep 79 pp 51-53

[Article: "Maybe It Is Just Witchcraft"]

[Text] A sect which teaches absolute obedience. A doctrine. Clever young people who complain but shut their eyes. Perhaps they are young people of good will in the midst of crass materialism.

There is no Islam without jama'ah [brotherhood], no jama'ah without imarah [governing board], no imarah without bai'at [allegiance], no bai'at without ta'at [obedience]. This has become the doctrine of the Islam Jama'ah--established by Imam Hadji Nurhasan Al Ubaidah Lubis Amir. He is not a Mandailing but actually is an East Javanese (see box). There is still another part of the doctrine: Whoever dies without mouthing allegiance, dies an infidel.

The first sentence was expressed by the Prophet's disciple, Umar bin Khatthab; the second is the Prophet's own. There is no doubt that this is a Moslem tradition, though it is not central to Islamic practice. The problem lies in its interpretation.

Nurhasyim, a scholar in the Tarbiah (education) faculty at IAIN [State Islamic Religion Institute], a follower of Nurhasan since 1957--and lately an intellectual supporter seeking to rebut, in two of his books, all of the complaints about Nurhasan--explained that the jama'ah is a purely religious association. Such an association must be led by an Amirul Mukminin, to whom allegiance must be paid and who subsequently must be obeyed without reservation.

Indeed, the interpretation made by ulamas, not only in Indonesia, is that the jama'ah is a social welfare association--not a religious empire. This calls for the association to be directed by an imarah (board or administration). For this, of course, certain principles must be agreed upon and these must be obeyed within normal limits. This happened in the lifetime of the Prophet and his disciples, given the conditions of those times. The title Amirul Mukminin, sought by Nurhasan as a mantle, is given to heads of government or sovereigns.

The reason for this is clear. If one obeys the teachings of the Prophet regarding religious interpretation, the amir is the sole ultimate interpreter. And Nurhasan's interpretation was not Islam's, and that is what happened to the members of the Islam Jama'ah. "Believe in heaven; do not believe in hell." Or "religion should not be discussed but applied."

Why did Nurhasan want to become an amirul mukminin? Because he said he had received the homage of three persons on returning from Mecca in 1941 while

no one in Indonesia had as yet been accorded such homage. Then, as Nurhasyim has said in his book "Homage Postponed Destroys You and Your Family" or the book, "Seven Legal Facts about Jama'ah Imamship in Indonesia," if another person later claims to be the amir after Nurhasan has been so honored, that person deserves to be killed.

Nurhasan's charisma plus the intellectual assistance of Nurhasyim and one or two others have enabled him to build enough power to reach down hierarchically via "amirs." A 1974 report to the Karawang office of the Department of Religion, prepared by a former amir in Cikampek, who became a "renegade," outlined the amirate structure as follows: An Amirul Mukminim at the center, that is, at the Pondok [religious boarding school] Burengan, Kediri; regional amirs (at the gubernatorial level); village amirs (at the regency level); and group amirs (at the subdistrict level). Local imams or preachers, who were paid in cash received as offerings, and the ru yah (laymen) were at subordinate levels.

A great deal of money could be received -- offerings, depending on the wealth of those who offered the money or how the amir judged was proper. All funds flowed to Kediri through successive amirs. No one had the right (on religious grounds) to examine the "books." What was there in it for the communicants?

Continually reiterated promises of heaven. And redemption for their sins-- guaranteed by a letter signed under oath before the amir and by paying a kifarat (ransom) in an amount decided upon by the amir. After paying the ransom, which could be large if the individual were wealthy, an individual felt secure--particularly if the sum paid was large. In the meantime, the individual was absolutely forbidden to listen to any other religious teachings.

Sudjoko Prasodjo, director of the Institute for Social Science Studies, said young people were attracted to this sect because its teachings were straightforward and instructive, among other reasons--they thus tended to "pawn" their own intellectuality.

Some young people were very pious. At the central religious boarding school in Kediri, called the Pondok Barakah, they were visibly pious. At 2:00 am there was a knock on every pupil's door. "Ndonga, ndonga," a voice outside called them to prayer. So they gathered in the mosque. Almost none of these pupils, including even the most pious, wore any head covering.

However, a doctrine like this readily creates conflicts, and for that reason GOLKAR (Golongan Karya--political faction) tried to clamp down on the "sect." Acting on a joint decision taken on 15 June 1975 at Kediri by the GOLKAR DPP [central executive committee] (specifically the general chairman together with the former leadership of the Darul Hadits/Jama'ah Qur'an Hadis/JPID [Islam Jama'ah Education Institute]), the DPP wrote a letter to those responsible at the center. It cited the attorney general's ban of 1971 and said that after scrutinizing the Islam Jama'ah teachings, thesis by thesis, it found definite deviations. The letter also mentioned the "amiratehood" which had "created a personality cult." For that reason LEMKARI had been formed in 1972.

The pondok was thereupon converted into an institute "and Imam Hadji Nurhasan Amir no longer acted as its leader (the amir)." The letter stated that, of course, it would take time to establish order since--among other reasons--"many persons in the LEMKARI organization itself are fanatic about the amir." That letter also requested the attorney general to issue a ban on Nurhasyim's two books, mentioned earlier, which discussed unconditional allegiance to the brotherhood, and to the amir, and obedience to his wishes.

Kiai Hadji Thohir Widjaja, general chairman of the Majelis [council] Da'wah Islamiah (MDI-GOLKAR), told TEMPO about a meeting with LEMKARI in February 1979 where "Rak Amir Murtono was very angry because there still were some separatists who followed the teachings of Darul Hadits." Another TEMPO source explained that, on the contrary, LEMKARI was unceasingly criticized for remaining separatist, considering persons believing in other religions as infidels, and, therefore, they would be consigned to hell. Many persons may be waiting. Attorney General Ali Said told TEMPO, "Apparently God has not approved of my taking a decision this week"--in regard to his promise to announce a decision on the Islam Jama'ah case. He repeated, "If this is the same group as that banned in 1971, they can be penalized. But it is important that the jama'ah [brotherhood] be saved, above all those who lack understanding. We will pursue its leadership."

From the minister of religion: "We can settle on a posture only after the consultations with the attorney general are finished," Minister Alamayah told TEMPO.

Many people doubt that anything will result from GOLKAR's attempt to bring order into the Islam Jama'ah because the problem is one of doctrine, moreover because the same persons held positions in the new organization. It is only in Islamic circles that one hears that they want no harsh measures to be taken--as voiced by Amiruddin Siregar, secretary general of the MUI [Indonesian Ulama Council] and Muttaqin, chairman of the West Java Ulama Council, for instance. They are inclined to turn the problem over to the government without causing tumult by having to take steps against the individuals (not their teachings).

Witchcraft or faith, what does one see in the Islam Jama'ah case--viewed from all aspects?

Artists on Islam Jama'ah Connections

Jakarta TEMPO in Indonesian 15 Sep 79 pp 53-54

[Interviews with Benyamin, Keenan, Ida Royani, Christine Hakim and others, in Jakarta by Widi Yarmanto]

[Text] Benyamin, Keenan, Ida Royani, Christine and others have had contact with Islam Jama'ah. Following are Widi Yarmanto's interviews.

Keenan Nasution, musician, age 27, is he a true adherent of Islam Jama'ah? He denies this. I just read about Islam Jama'ah, he said, in a brochure published by the Kemayoran Muballigh [preacher] Corps. "As good Moslems, if we are wrong, who is responsible for our being wrong?" he asked. Actually Keenan does not like to discuss religion. "There's no point in discussing religion. If you cannot believe in it, so be it."

Keenan teaches in the mosque behind his house. Formerly it was used as a kitchen and it can now hold 400 parishioners. The mosque was expanded three times and plans have been made to expand it again. The mosque was established in 1975. Keenan did not know why anyone would make such accusations against him without ever having met him or without knowing what he has done. When Nurhasan was mentioned, Keenan confessed he did not know him. "I only came to know of him after the repeated hubbub," he said.

Keenan's father, Syahidi Hasyim Nasution, felt bad that his son had been so accused. Also, he said, persons unknown to them had begun to search the mosque behind his house, which has no door. They came (they appeared to be persons they had never seen before), then opened the cupboards and rummaged through the mosque's books as they pleased.

He also couldn't help wondering why Ida Royani or Christine Hakim were similarly accused. They had come there as children to play, he said. Later Keenan gave the children religious instruction without charging them a cent. "Didn't this make me proud as his father?" Keenan's father forthrightly invited the preachers to debate with him. But "not on religion, on logic," he said. "One doesn't have to discuss the verses of the Koran."

He also swears, "by Allah," that he only learned of the Islam Jama'ah after books were written about the sect. He cannot help wondering about an amir who can guarantee that everyone will go to heaven. "Are these children dumb? Don't they have any brains? They aren't living in the 7th century," said Syahidi Hasyim Nasution.

The Veil

How about Ida Royani? "I don't know anything about the Islam Jama'ah. I only heard about it after the uproar," she said. "I know the word jama'ah from sholat. If performing sholat alone is the first merit, then to meet in assembly is the 27th merit." She performed sholat anywhere. "Near the house, at the Istiqlal Mosque, in the Supreme Mosque (Al Ashar?), and so on.

"As for the veil? It is worn by women who have made the hadj and also by women in the kampungs. As an artist, I always keep in touch with all kinds of people. I must be able to do this. I don't feel strongly about wearing the veil. Why has my attitude toward this veil business been blown up out of proportion?"

She also could not help wondering about why it did not cause a sensation when she was in disco. Now that she has "left disco for religious instruction and sholat, this causes a sensation." "Do they want to send me back to disco again?" she asked with annoyance. "They should realize what it's like at the Bina Ria," she continued. Unable to control her feelings, she pointed to her head and said, "Think with this!"

Yesterday, for Ramadan, the KODI [Coordinator of the Propagation of the Islamic Faith) for DKI [special capital region] Greater Jakarta, invited Ida Royani, Keenan, and other artists, businessmen, and intellectuals to join him in opening the fasting period. Replying to questions about herself and efforts to propagate the faith, Ida Royani said, among other things, that the lessons she had studied heretofore were not derived from the teachings of Allah and His disciples. "Because I know that whoever acts in ways not prescribed by the Prophet will be rejected for his deeds. This I firmly believe. I will not accept any religious teaching--whether it be taught by 10 or 20 hadjis at a time--without proof being offered. I can't accept it on faith."

She said she had been given religious instruction recently but she stopped because of the uproar this created.

Do They Just Want Drunks?

Benyamin, 40 years of age, no longer lives at the Pondok [religious boarding school] Labu after having divorced his wife. He now lives in Kemayoran, at his parents' home. "I am a Moslem. Enough said. It's true, just a Moslem. I am not interested in any kind of Islam Jama'ah," he told TEMPO in front of the mushola which had been donated for religious use. He admitted that peace had been shattered in the mushola after "slanderous things had been said about him and his connection with Islam Jama'ah. But he continues to take religious instruction in peace. Benyamin said he didn't choose any particular teacher. "Today they said a teacher selected by Raden Saleh would be here but he did not come," he said. He would take religious instruction anywhere, the same with sholat.

He plans to make the hadj again this pilgrimage season. Will it be the same pilgrimage as the earlier one? "Earlier it was a different pilgrimage. I didn't understand what it was all about." It is only in the past 6 months, Benyamin admitted, "That religious instruction has had any real meaning for me."

Does Benyamin refuse to participate in any discussion which seeks the truth whether in the Koran or the Hadis? They say Benyamin does not really want to be made aware of the truth: "Of what must I be made aware?" Earlier, some came to hold discussions about this (before his divorce), but they didn't come after the divorce. "Though. These books cannot be discussed in the same way. Think about this. Isn't this true of books which are different? A book of prophecies is different," he said.

Regarding the divorce. They say that it was due to your adherence to Islam Jama'ah. Because you wouldn't give your wife any spiritual support for 2 months. "That's sheer gossip. The ones who spread this know." So what caused the divorce? "My interest in music an' also because of the gossip about me and Ida Royani." Bur, "Let's not go into that. People also spoke falsely about the Prophet and His disciples."

In Benyamin's kampung area in Kemayoran, the people at the mosque spread the rumor that Benyamin was an Islam Jama'ah communicant. But what happened? People continued to speak kindly of him. Islam Jama'ah is said to teach its followers not to have contact with a non-Jama'ah (unclean) Moslem and to forbid its followers to eat at such a person's home. Benyamin denies this. When he visited someone at home and asked for food because he was hungry, they looked at him in surprise. They said I was not permitted to exchange greetings or eat at another person's home!" Benyamin laughed. Then he was criticized for eating there.

Regarding the meeting with the DKI KODI mentioned earlier, Benyamin said, "Of course, being an artist, I was put in a bad light by our bapaks. Moreover, I come from Betawi. I received guidance from Allah; I made the hadj. On return I studied the Koran and Hadis. I became aware. You know how it is. The older we get, the closer the sunset. For me, it's late afternoon. But what a surprise. Apparently there are some who react negatively toward me and toward my fellow artists. I heard attacks against me personally. What does Benyamin know? Drumming, dancing girls, 'palenye petot.'"

We would like to have people get excited about our new awareness. Conversely, earlier we drank beer, went to parties where there was dancing, and no one cried out against it. None of this has ever been attacked. Do they just want to be drunk? If we propagate the faith, we are attacked. I received an anonymous letter. It was horrible!"

Viewed From the Other Side

Noni, 39 years of age, Benyamin's former wife, confirmed what Benyamin had said: that their divorce was not due to the Islam Jama'ah. "Only," she said, "he was a changed man while he was taking religious instruction." Benyamin himself told Noni after their home life went to pieces, "If we get a divorce, let's not bring the religious instruction into it." But when did you break up? "When he started religious instruction, 2 years ago." Noni admitted that Benyamin was a good man. But who knows why he became a different person after he took religious instruction. Noni also had been invited to study with Benyamin's teacher but it did not suit her. She recited the Koran four times at home alone in the Pondok Labu. "The Koran and Hadis, of course, are unchanged in this instruction but they are interpreted differently. So it feels different. I became less interested. I also felt it did not fit in with my life style. I did not want to take lessons from a male teacher. I wanted a female teacher."

Was it true that Benyamin had joined the Islam Jama'ah? "Of course, he did," Noni said.

What convinced you that Benyamin had become a member of Islam Jama'ah? "I lived with him for 20 years. Each year I saw him change. The religious instruction teacher once said here, "If you disagree on Islam Jama'ah, you may get a divorce." "Benyamin also often said I lacked faith and so on." Because their homelife was already in trouble, Noni also wanted a divorce by Benyamin's teacher at the home in Pondok Labu. "But I really did not want to do it. We believed in Pancasila," said Noni. Noni wanted to get a divorce at the KUA [Religious Affairs Office] as should properly be done by a Moslem. "But I could not say whether this was good or bad. I did not know. Many preachers could say whether it was good or bad, true or untrue. But I could not," she continued.

Benyamin often lied to his wife, according to Noni. He was underhanded also. "And I did not want to be lied to." Whenever Benyamin went out, and if his wife asked him where he was going, he always said he was going to religious instruction. "Continually taking religious instruction? One only needs to do this twice a week. He was continually making up stories. When he was questioned about his lying, what did he answer? He said it was no lie that he was taking religious instruction," said Noni.

Is it true that Benyamin didn't give any "spiritual support" to his wife? "That's not true. I was only divorced 2 months ago. It's not true that he failed to give me spiritual support, but we grew further apart as a husband and wife. Our marriage became stale." For instance, he didn't care about his family and often slept out anywhere. He also didn't care what the neighbors said, Noni added.

Noni also denied that she had forbidden him to become an artist. "I had never forbidden him to sing. I forbade him to take religious instruction which was not true religious instruction. Study with other teachers so that you can compare the teachings; those which are good and correct." But Benyamin did not want to study with another teacher. At that time he said, "The Islam Jama'ah is the true teaching." But, she said, "Benyamin now has begun to change. If he is changing, thank God."

Noni was most annoyed with Benyamin's teacher who stuck to him at all times. "Give some thought to this: a religious study teacher who follows someone wherever he goes. Even to where he works," she said.

6804

CSO: 8127/0044

MINISTER COMMENTS ON PERTAMINA EXPANSION, ENERGY CRISIS

Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 17 Jul 79 pp 2, 3

[Text] Minister of Mining and Energy Professor Subroto said that Pertamina was now entering the second, or construction phase. This follows the overcoming of the problems caused by the 1974 Pertamina crisis.

Speaking at the installation of Pertamina's new financial director, Major General Suharto yesterday in the Director General Migas Auditorium, Minister Subroto stated that Pertamina is now tasked with developing the oil/petrochemical industries, in addition to its primary task of increasing oil exploration and production. Included among several planned Pertamina projects are the construction of hydrocrackers in Dumai, Balikpapan; and on Center project in Arun; the Aromatic Center project in Plaju; a methanol project on Pulau Bunyu; and a carbon black project in Dumai/Sei Pakning.

These petrochemical and hydrocracker projects are intended to bring in foreign exchange income, over and above that now obtained from the export of crude oil and oil products. The hydrocracker projects are also designed to meet increasing in-country fuel oil needs, as well as reducing imports from abroad.

Referring to the energy crisis and current increases in oil prices, Minister Subroto said the crisis was caused by world industry's long-held belief that oil prices would remain low. World industry progressed rapidly, far ahead of the increase in income by oil producing states.

Thus, the 1973 energy crisis was aimed at achieving a fairer price for petroleum. It was hoped that the advanced nations would use petroleum more economically and more efficiently. It was also hoped that they develop alternate energy sources.

However, neither hope was realized. Oil consumption in the industrial nations continued to rise, and efforts to develop alternate energy sources were half-hearted. The world should not forget that petroleum prices did not increase from 1977 to 1979. With low oil prices, industry in the advanced world outstripped progress in the remainder of the world; moreover,

because of inflation, the value of the dollar sagged, and unemployment and strikes were widespread.

All of these problems contributed to the 1979 energy crisis. It is not correct to blame OPEC, or make them a scapegoat for the current rise in oil prices. The current rise in oil prices is intended to work for a more evenly distributed pace of development, so that the advanced and developing nations develop more equitably, without special protection.

In addition, the energy crisis is caused by the fact that world demand exceeds production. At present, demand is 52 million barrels per day, while production is 46 million barrels per day, 29 million from OPEC and 17 million from non-OPEC states.

Thus, Minister Subroto says the length of the oil crisis depends on whether the advanced nations can reduce petroleum consumption below 52 million barrels per day. It also depends on whether the oil producing nations, OPEC and non-OPEC, can raise production beyond current totals of 29 million and 17 million barrels per day, respectively.

Pertamina's new financial director, Major General Suharto, previously served as Business Inspector for Pertamina. That post will be assumed by Tobing, chief of the Pertamina delegation in Tokyo. The former financial director, Almatsier, resigned at the end of June because he was suffering from cancer.

9197

CSO: 4213

NO OPERATION ORDER STATISTICS FOR MAY, JUNE

Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 16 Jul 79 pp 1, 13

[Text] Unlike previous months, the head of Operation Order Center, Admiral Sudomo, and Minister for Administrative Reform J. B. Sumarlin did not announce monthly statistics for May and June.

"That is because statistics can be misinterpreted. If the totals are less than previous months, it will be said that Operation Order is losing momentum. If the totals are higher, it will be said that violators are still not yet concerned," Sumarlin and Sudomo explained after meeting with President Suharto in Merdeka Palace Saturday.

Minister Sumarlin noted that supervision in the departments was going better, and the effort must continue. Meanwhile, Admiral Sudomo noted that Operation Order was 2 years old on 16 June, and he was optimistic, in view of its results, that a clean administration would emerge in 5-10 years, as originally planned.

Sudomo believes public faith in Operation Order remains strong; meanwhile, control in the departments and in regional governments shows signs of improvement. "Every potential violator must now think twice," he said.

Sudomo said that in the last 2 years, post office box 999 received 40,610 written reports and complaints, of which 9,850 were processed. In addition, the Sarinah Company case, a large case being handled by Operation Order Center, will be made public in a few days.

Without revealing statistics, Sumarlin furnished some examples of the cases handled by Operation Order in the last 2 months. Included was that of an Army Colonel sentenced to 6 years in prison for stealing 75 million Rupiahs; and a subdistrict head in North Sulawesi who diverted 30.2 million Rupiahs to his own use.

In addition, SDU, an official in North Sumatra was investigated because he failed to record 14.6 million Rupiahs. In North Sumatra, Lieutenant Colonel YM falsified claims for renting houses to the amount of 30.7 million Rupiahs. Hakim S. in the West Lesser Sundas was involved in bribery by a defendant.

Prosecutor D in West Java was fired for receiving money from a defendant, and for disposing of evidence. Judge YT, who left his post and is now employed privately, was also investigated. An official of the Department of Commerce and Cooperation falsified orders for 9.8 million Rupiahs worth of office equipment. These cases were among the samples revealed by Operation Order in May and June.

9197
CSO: 4213

MEYAL OILFIELD TO BE DEVELOPED; ACCORDS SIGNED

Quetta BALUCHISTAN TIMES in English 10 Oct 79 p 4

[Text] Islamabad, Oct 9: Two agreements were signed here yesterday between the International Finance Corporation (IFC) the Government of Pakistan the Attock Oil Company (AOC) and the two companies Pakistan Oilfields Limited (POL) and Attock Refinery Limited (ARL).

The agreements provide for the development of Meyal field of the Pakistan Oilfields to virtually double the companies oil production and the expansion of the Attock Refinery Limited from 11,000 barrels a-day to 36,000 barrels a day to refine oil from Pakistan Oil field Limited and the Oil and Gas Development Corporation in the Potwar area.

The first 5,000 BPD unit at ARL, is scheduled for completion by March 31 1980 and the 20,000 BPD by November 1980.

When completed and fully operative these investments will save the country over 200 million dollars of foreign exchange per year at the current prices of crude.

The International Finance Corporation with a consortium of International banks is providing foreign exchange loans dollars 14 million to Pakistan Oilfields Ltd and dollars 15 million to Attock Refinery Ltd. Rupee financing is covered by increase in equity in the two companies owned by the Attock Oil Company, the Government of Pakistan International Finance Corporation and the Pakistan Public and rupee loans mainly from the National Development Finance Corporation and the local banks--APP.

CSO: 4220

PHILIPPINES

SHIFT TO CANADIAN TOBACCO CONSIDERED

Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 1 Oct 79 p 16

[Text] The Philippines is seriously considering a plan to totally source its flue-cured Virginia tobacco requirements from Canada instead of the United States, Epifanio Castillejos, chairman of the Tobacco inter-agency committee disclosed yesterday.

Castillejos said that the sourcing switch is now implemented on a trial basis following the visit to Manila of Canadian agriculture officials.

Initially, he said, Canada will export to local suppliers 10 tons of flue-cured Virginia tobacco for blending purposes.

Canada also expressed interest to import from local producers cigar leaf tobacco.

Castillejos said the tobacco committee is now studying the possibility of a swapping arrangement between Canada and the Philippines.

The Canadian offer was relayed to the tobacco committee by Ron K. McNeil and Michael Loh of the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food.

According to Federico Moreno, chairman of the Philippine Virginia Tobacco Administration, he welcomes the offer and will refer it to the Cigaret Manufacturers Association.

The inter-agency committee is also eyeing the possibility of importing blending tobacco from South Korea.

At present, local cigarette manufacturers import blending tobacco from the United States and Taiwan.

Last year, flue-cured Virginia tobacco imports totalled slightly over \$22 million. Imports from the United States accounted for more than \$21 million.

CSO: 4220

PHILIPPINES

DRILLING GROUPS WAIT FOR WEATHER TO CLEAR

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 12 Oct 79 p 24

[Text] Both the Cities Service and Salen consortium were reported by the Ministry of Energy yesterday to have been waiting for storm clouds to clear before resuming exploration work in offshore Palawan.

As of yesterday, the weather bureau sent bulletins that the howler "Uring" was still hammering the exploration area but was moving out to the south China sea.

Cities Service kept the jack-up rig Ron Tappmeyer anchored at Nido IX-1, its newly-discovered oil well. The well has been plugged temporarily pending evaluation of data gathered during a series of drill stem tests.

Once "Uring" takes full exit, Cities Service will tow Ron Tappmeyer to its new assignment, Nido IIX-1. Each day of delay costs Cities Service \$35,000 for the lease of Ron Tappmeyer, which the US firm has commissioned.

Salen has temporarily shut down drilling operations in its Kalamansi 1 well. The well stands at its present depth of 6,240 feet.

Roxas 1, under drilling by Citco, is safe from typhoon "Uring." It is on the other side of Palawan island.

The Phillips group is also drilling ahead at its Santan 1 well without being bothered by Uring. Santan 1 is in northwest Cebu.

Roxas 1, Santan 1, and Kalamansi 1 are three wells that are being drilled this fourth quarter. The fourth one, Nido IIX-1, was scheduled to be spudded in but for the lousy weather.

According to the energy ministry, six wells scheduled to be spudded in this fourth quarter are expected to be deferred. Of the six, three are by PNOC Exploration Corp., two by Multi-Natural and one each by the Trend-Marsteel and the Bondoc groups.

Despite these six deferments, 10 wells are expected to be completed this last quarter. These include Nido IIX-1, Kalamansi 1, Santan 1, Roxas 1.

These 10 wells bring the total number of wells drilled this year to 30, beyond the 20 wells-per-year targetted by the energy ministry.

PNOC is deferred drilling its three wells due a review of seismic data; Multi-Natural, due to logistical problems in transferring a rig; and Trend-Marsteel and the Bondoc groups, for reasons omitted by the ministry in an announcement.

CSO: 4220

PHILIPPINES

FM LAUNCHES 11 MAJOR PROJECTS

Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 29 Sep 79 p 1

[Article by Miguel Genovea]

[Text] President Marcos directed last night the implementation of 11 major industrial projects worth \$6 billion to enable the country to cope with economic difficulties.

The President disclosed the order during his speech before members of the University of the Philippines Law Alumni Association at the Philippine International Convention Center.

The President said that the industrial projects, part of the three-pronged economic strategy of the country in 1980, are designed to provide the basic industrial infrastructure of the nation's economy.

Intended to fight inflation and unemployment, the 11 industrial projects to be started next year are: Heavy industry (fabrication of machinery for alcogas, cement, refineries, heavy equipment, etc.), integrated steel mill, petrochemical complex, copper smelter, phosphatic fertilizers, aluminum smelter, diesel engine manufacturing, integrated pulp and paper, cement industry expansion, rationalization of coconut industry and development of nonconventional sources of energy.

The President said the other vital aspects of the country's economic strategy in 1980 include the development of new and aggressive approaches to exports and the acceleration of the program for the development of alternative sources of energy.

The President admitted that the coming economic policies involve big and ambitious programs requiring not just massive financing and tremendous resources.

However, he said, "it will mean much to our people--more work, more income, more food and a more secure tomorrow."

Unfazed by what he called global economic uncertainty, the President said the Philippines, even purely from the standpoint of an economic manager, is equipped to face the challenge.

"Just as we overcame the problems of 1974, we will overcome the problems of 1979 and move toward our objective of national economic development," the President said.

To allow for the accelerated implementation of the industrial projects and also to permit the simultaneous development of other national projects in the field of transportation and other infrastructures, the President directed a review of the country's policy on foreign debt ceilings which, by international standards, have been very conservative.

The President also said that he had issued a Letter of Instruction directing the economic planners to undertake a review of the government's borrowing policies.

"If we do not rethink our conservative policies, we may never again have an opportunity to proceed with these major projects," the President said.

Noting the country's conservative industrialization policy in the past, the President said that there is a need for a more aggressive industrial policy to maintain the momentum of growth and development.

He said that some neighboring countries have gone forward and installed production capacity in many of their basic industrial products because of an aggressive policy.

"If we do not shift gears and get on the same fast track, I am concerned that we shall not be able to catch up and that we shall be left to receive the dust of those we follow," he said.

To help accelerate the implementation of the industrial projects, the President said that the government welcomes and encourages the private sector to invest in these projects.

Besides the new industrial policy, the President explained that the traditional anti-inflationary instruments will be utilized without hampering growth, employment and productivity.

The President also justified the continuation of martial law not only to safeguard the achievements of the New Society but also to provide the mechanism to respond swiftly and decisively in case of emergency or threat.

At the start of his speech, the President said that he has been urged by some friends to reply to what he termed "calumny and misrepresentations" published in two weekly American magazines.

"I do not think it is proper to the dignity of the President of the Republic of the Philippines to respond to the bundle of errors and inexactitudes that the international publications purvey," he said.

He said that he is leaving it up to the individual Filipino reader who knows when the truth is being perverted or suppressed.

CSO: 4220

PHILIPPINES

NEW PALAWAN OIL STRIKE REPORTED

Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 27 Sep 79 p 1

[Text] An oil exploration group led by Cities Service Co. of the United States has struck oil near an existing oilfield off West Palawan, the Ministry of Energy disclosed yesterday.

The discovery well, code-named Nido IX-1, spouted oil at the rate of 3,000 barrels per day. It is the seventh well in the offshort Palawan area to yield oil.

The oil find was reported to President Marcos by Acting Energy Minister Gabriel Itchon. (Energy Minister Geronimo Velasco is abroad.)

Itchon informed the President that a series of drill stem tests have been conducted on the well since Tuesday last week. The site is 1.8 km. north-east of the Nido production structure.

The significance of the Nido IX-1 discovery, according to Itchon, confirms the presence of additional movable oil in the Nido complex and further enhances the promise of several drillable prospects in the Nido area.

Although Nido IX-1 lies near oil producing wells, it is on a totally different structure--meaning its reservoir is not the same as that of current Nido production wells.

In his report to the President, Itchon said that the new oil well has reached a total depth of 7,556 feet and encountered positive oil shows while drilling within the limestone reservoir.

It was on the third drill stem test on this suspected oil zone that oil was flowed, Itchon said. He added that drilling was conducted by the jack-up rig Ron Tappmeyer.

Cities Service will now conduct extensive studies on the result of the drilling and all drill stem test data to determine the reserve potential of the new oil find.

After completion of the Nido IX-1 well, Itchon said, Ron Tappmeyer will move to its next well location, code-named Nido IIX-1, some 2.7 km. west of Nido.

Other oil-yield wells also located in offshore Palawan are the Nido 1; Sampaguita 1 in the Reed Bank area; South Nido 1 which is currently in production; Cadlao 1 which is expected to be developed next year; West Nido which is also in production; and Matinloc.

The new oil discovery is expected to further boost daily production output from the Nido complex. At present, the Nido wells are already producing an average of 40,000 barrels of oil daily.



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